

San Antonio, TX-Congressman Ciro Rodriguez (TX-23), U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), and U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX), are seeking President Bush's support for a request to declare a Presidential Disaster Declaration for Presidio County due to serious flooding. Governor Rick Perry requested the declaration from the President in a letter late Thursday evening after the Rio Grande had been rising due to of heavy rain and the release of water from a reservoir in Mexico.

"Presidio has been hit with flooding that may sustain long term damage," **Congressman Rodriguez** said. "My colleagues and I are hopeful that President Bush will declare a disaster area so that these communities can receive the necessary assistance from the federal government. I am pleased at the local state and federal response thus far, but we must continue to aid in whatever way we can."

"Presidio County is facing serious damage as a result of severe rainfall in the area and the federal government must do everything in its power to help the residents and local officials," said **Senator Cornyn**. "I join my fellow Texans in urging President Bush to act quickly on our request to issue a disaster declaration for Presidio County. I will continue to offer my support and to work closely with local, state and federal officials to ensure the impacted area receives the assistance it needs."

The text of the letter from Congressman Rodriguez, and Senators Hutchison and Cornyn to President Bush is below :

Friday, September 19, 2008

The Honorable George W. Bush

President

The White House

1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW

Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As you may know, Presidio County, Texas located in my congressional district is experiencing flooding that is threatening lives and homes in the area. Heavy periods of rain have caused a surplus of water to be released from reservoirs in northern Mexico which has created a levee breach along the Rio Grande River and Presidio County is now endangered. The County of Presidio is already working tirelessly to mitigate the damage.

Last night Texas Governor Rick Perry issued a disaster declaration for Presidio County. I also would like to respectfully urge you to issue a presidential disaster declaration for Presidio County, Texas as soon as possible. This is very important because the County will need all the resources available to them in this critical time.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. You may be certain that we will work with the Administration to aid the victims of this disaster.

Sincerely,

Congressman Ciro D. Rodriguez (TX-23)

U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX)

U.S. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX)